

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE  
MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 30, 2012*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share a few words on the vast and significant contributions Jewish Americans have made towards making America the greatest country in the world.

The first Jewish Americans arrived on our shores in 1654, for the same reason millions would follow in later years, as refugees from harm, poverty, and persecution.

These first Jewish Americans would settle in New Amsterdam (now New York) and eventually spread throughout our country from places as dispersed as Charleston and Philadelphia in the 18th century to nearly every corner of our country today, including a large and thriving community in my hometown of Houston.

The contribution of Jewish Americans to our Nation's history, culture and development are almost too numerous to list—from the legal contributions of Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis, to the musical talents of Leonard Bernstein, to the athletic prowess of Sandy Koufax, to the unknown thousands of Jewish American men and women who struggled for equality, workers' rights, and fought and died bravely for our country against tyranny.

Today, the Jewish American community, now over six million strong, continues this long and proud tradition as members of every segment of American society—from the classroom and the boardroom to the battlefield and the halls of Congress.

I ask all my colleagues in this chamber to join me in celebrating May as Jewish American Heritage Month.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS  
OF THE THOMAS JEFFERSON  
HIGH SCHOOL NATIONAL HIS-  
TORY BOWL TEAMS**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

MR. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the two teams of Thomas Jefferson High School students who have qualified for the National History Bowl's Championships in Washington, DC.

The teams made up of seniors John David McCleary, Sarah Lee, and Matthew Kullberg, and juniors Abigail Rood, Julia Huber, Hanna Moore, Anna Metcalf, Elissa McDavid, and Paul Jaquish, battled teams from across Washington State to qualify for the National Championship. They were challenged with questions ranging from Chinese dynasties to the lyrics of the ACDC hit "Back in Black." The two teams placed second and fourth to qualify for the National Championships.

In addition to participating in National History Bowl, these students belong to the rigorous International Baccalaureate program, which gives students a global education experience that prepares them to thrive in today's intercultural world. They are coached by Inter-

national Baccalaureate history teacher, Steven Hall, an Air Force Military Police Veteran.

The National History Bowl is an inter-scholastic team history competition. Each year between 60 and 75 regional tournaments are held to determine the top teams that will move on to the National Championships in Washington, DC. This year competitions were also held in Europe and Asia, and over 100 teams will compete in the National Championships. The goal of the National History Bowl is to instill a curiosity for the past that will help students as they grow into tomorrow's leaders.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the accomplishments of the Thomas Jefferson High School National History Bowl teams. Qualifying not just one, but two teams is a prestigious achievement very few schools can hope to accomplish. I wish them all the best of luck.

REVEREND MARK MACKEY SR.,  
NEW PASTOR OF MACEDONIA  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the installation of Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church's new pastor, Reverend Mark Mackey, Sr. Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church is located in Jackson, in the 8th District of Tennessee.

On May 7th, Pastor Mackey became Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church's 10th Pastor. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, for finding the shepherd for its flock, and beginning a new legacy in the community with Pastor Mackey.

TRIBUTE TO HAL JACKSON, PIO-  
NEER NEW YORK CITY RADIO  
BROADCASTER**HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note that there are many persons in the history of the African American community who have broken down important racial barriers, and that one of the most important of these was Harold Baron Jackson—better known as Hal Jackson—who helped to break down such barriers as a popular cross-over New York City radio broadcaster for over 50 years. He remained an active broadcaster on WBLS-FM Radio until just a few weeks before his passing. He died last Wednesday at age 96.

Mr. Jackson's easy manner and multiple interests in music didn't make it any easier for him to break into the radio business in the 1930s—before the 1954 Brown decision when Jim Crow de jure legal segregation was still the law of the land, while hangings of Blacks in the South were still a major concern in Black life and de facto segregation ruled the North.

The New York Times pointed out in its obituary, "At a time when segregation was wide-

spread, he was a familiar voice to black and white listeners alike. At one point in the 1950s, he was hosting three shows—one rhythm-and-blues, one jazz and one pop—on three different New York radio stations.

He was also a significant player, along with Percy Sutton, in the establishment of the African American wholly-owned Inner City Broadcasting Corporation in 1970 where he established an urban contemporary format rooted in African American music but which also appealed to a racially mixed audience. While getting his start in broadcasting in Washington, DC, he moved to New York in 1954 and helped to establish WBLS as the highest rated radio station in New York City. Mr. Jackson dominated the airwaves, eventually expanding his reach across the country.

In 1990 he became the first African American inducted into the National Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame, Mr. Speaker, and in 1995 was among the first five inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame.

Hal Jackson's birth, as was true of many southern Blacks then, was not officially recorded but it's believed that he was born on November 3, 1915 in Charleston, SC. He was one of five children. His father, Eugene Baron Jackson, was a tailor, and his mother was the former Laura Rivers. Both of his parents died when he was a child, so he was raised by "relatives in Charleston and New York before settling in Washington, where he graduated from Dunbar High School and attended classes at Howard University." (New York Times)

Mr. Jackson was also an avid sports fan who broadcast Howard University football and Negro league baseball games and organized an all-black basketball team known as the Washington Bears. He also raised money for civil rights causes, established Hal Jackson's Talented Teens International and was one of the first advocates of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. And, as they say, the rest is history.

He was married four times and divorced three. His current wife, the former Debi Bolling, survives him, along with two daughters, Jane and Jewell; his son, Hal Jackson, Jr., a former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

IN RECOGNITION OF OXFORD HIGH  
SCHOOL YELLOW JACKETS BASE-  
BALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE  
6A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention to pay recognition to the Oxford High School Yellow Jacket baseball team in Oxford, Alabama, who recently won the Alabama High School Athletic Association Class 6A State Championship.

This is the first State Championship for the Oxford baseball team after coming in as runners up in 1978, 1989 and 2009. They are led by Head Coach Wes Brooks.

All of us across Calhoun County and East Alabama are deeply proud of these talented young Alabamians. I'd like to congratulate the